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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

26822 7590 02/18/2004

WALTER A. HACKLER
2372 S.E. BRISTOL, SUITE B
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660-0755

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KIMBERLY D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 02/18/2004

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/061,387	02/01/2002	Karl-Rudolf Hopt	2870	2384

TITLE OF INVENTION: CARD READER INCLUDING/HAVING A PARTICULAR CARD STOP

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$665	\$300	\$965	05/18/2004

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

☐ Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail**

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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

26822 7590 02/18/2004
WALTER A. HACKLER
2372 S.E. BRISTOL, SUITE B
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660-0755

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/061,387	02/01/2002	Karl-Rudolf Hopt	2870	2384
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TITLE OF INVENTION: CARD READER INCLUDING/HAVING A PARTICULAR CARD STOP

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nonprovisional	YES	\$665	\$300	\$965	05/18/2004
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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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NGUYEN, KIMBERLY D	2876	235-439000
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1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent); ☐ individual ☐ corporation or other private group entity ☐ government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

- ☐ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

Director for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.**

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10/061,387	02/01/2002	Karl-Rudolf Hopt	2870	2384
26822	7590	02/18/2004	EXAMINER	
WALTER A. HACKLER 2372 S.E. BRISTOL, SUITE B NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660-0755			NGUYEN, KIMBERLY D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2876	
DATE MAILED: 02/18/2004				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 139 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 139 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/061,387

Examiner

Kimberly D. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

HOPT ET AL.

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 27 October 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-23, 26-33 and 36-40.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____ | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment - - - - - |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

Amendment

1. Acknowledgement is made of Amendment filed 27 October 2003.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Walter Hackler on 5 January 2004.

Re Title: Replace the title with the following:

-- Card reader including/having a particular card stop--

THE FOLLOWING IS AMENDED CLAIMS:

Re claim 21: Incorporate claims 24 and 25 into claim 21 as follow:

-- 21. Card stop apparatus for a card reader, said card stop apparatus comprising:
a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card; [and]
an arm, rotatably coupled to said card stop, said arm being deflectable about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card, and behind said card stop in a card inserting direction, said arm being pretensioned into a pivoting position engaging the card path[.];

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wherein said card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and
wherein said bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment. --

Re claim 24: (Cancel)

Re claim 25: (Cancel)

Re claim 30: Amend claim 30 as follow:

-- 30. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, [said bolt is generally round and the recess comprise a circle segment,] the deflectable arm includes a slope pattern extending into the card path at an angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a separating edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected below the arm and a card reader housing. --

Re claim 31: Incorporate claims 34 and 35 into claim 31 as follow:

-- 31. Card stop apparatus for a card reader said card stop apparatus comprising:
a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path;
an arm rotatably coupled to said card stop about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path and disposed behind the card stop in a card inserting direction, wherein, when the card has not yet been inserted into the card reader, the arm and the card stop engage in the

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card path and wherein insertion of a card pivots the arm out of the card path against an effect of a restoring force thereby rotating the card stop out of the card path[.];

wherein said card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and

wherein said bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment.--

Re claim 34: (Cancel)

Re claim 35: (Cancel)

Re claim 40: Amend claim 40 as follow:

-- 40. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance [form] from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, [said bolt is generally round and the recess comprise a circle segment,] the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a separation edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing. --

THE FOLLOWING IS A NEW SET OF THE CLAIMS:

21. Card stop apparatus for a card reader, said card stop apparatus comprising:

a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card;

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an arm, rotatably coupled to said card stop, said arm being deflectable about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card, and behind said card stop in a card inserting direction, said arm being pretensioned into a pivoting position engaging the card path;

wherein said card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and wherein said bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment.

22. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop.

23. Card stop apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation.

24. (Cancel)

25. (Cancel)

26. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path.

27. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path.

28. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein said card stop comprises a separating edge on a side pivoting into the card path.

29. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 further comprising a tension spring for pretensioning the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing.

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30. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, said bolt is generally round and the recess comprise a circle segment, the deflectable arm includes a slope pattern extending into the card path at an angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a separating edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected below the arm and a card reader housing.

31. Card stop apparatus for a card reader said card stop apparatus comprising:
a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path;
an arm rotatably coupled to said card stop about an axis of rotation extending transverse to card path and disposed behind the card stop in a card inserting direction, wherein, when the card has not yet been inserted into the card reader, the arm and the card stop engage in the card path and wherein insertion of a card pivots the arm out of the card path against an effect of a restoring force thereby rotating the card stop out the card path.

32. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop.

33. Card stop apparatus according claim 32 wherein the second arm is hinged to a said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation.

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34. (Cancel)

35. (Cancel)

36. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 where the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path.

37. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path.

38. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein said card stop comprises a separating edge on a side pivoting into the card path.

39. Card stop apparatus according claim 31 further comprises a tension spring for pretensioning the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing.

40. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a separation edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 21-23, 26-33 and 36-40 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

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The record of prior art fails to teach a card stop apparatus for a card reader, including: a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into the card reader, the card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card; an arm, rotatably coupled to the card stop, the arm being deflectable about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card, and behind the card stop in a card inserting direction, the arm being pretensioned into a pivoting position engaging the card path; wherein the card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and wherein the bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment.

Although, Koike teaches a card stop apparatus for a card reader, the card stop apparatus comprising: a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into the card reader, the card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path; and an arm, rotatably coupled to the card stop, the arm being deflectable about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path, and behind the card stop in a card inserting direction, the arm being pretensioned into a pivoting position engaging the card path. However, Koike fails to specifically teach a card stop apparatus, wherein the card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and the bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-1798 and 571-272-2402 effective 14 January 2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503 and 571-272-2398 effective 14 January 2004. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-8792.

KDN
13 January 2004


MICHAEL G. LEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: 13 January 2004

From: Kimberly Nguyen

Phone: 703-305-1798

571-272-2402 (effective 15 January 2004)

Fax: 703-746-8595

To: Mr. Walter Hackler

Phone: (949) 851-5010

Fax: (949) 752-1925

Serial No: 10/061,387

No. of Pages: 7 (including this cover page)

Dear Mr. Hackler,

Per our discussion via the phone today, the following attachment is the proposed Examiner's amendment to place the application in condition for allowance. Please respond ASAP.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Nguyen

THE FOLLOWING IS AMENDED CLAIMS:

Re claim 21: Incorporate claims 24 and 25 into claim 21 as follow:

-- 21. Card stop apparatus for a card reader, said card stop apparatus comprising:

a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card; [and]

an arm, rotatably coupled to said card stop, said arm being deflectable about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card, and behind said card stop in a card inserting direction, said arm being pretensioned into a pivoting position engaging the card path[.];

wherein said card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and

wherein said bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment. --

Re claim 24: (Cancel)

Re claim 25: (Cancel)

Re claim 30: Amend claim 30 as follow:

-- 30. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, [said bolt is generally round and the recess comprise a circle segment,] the deflectable arm includes a slope pattern extending into the card path at an

angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a separating edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected below the arm and a card reader housing. --

Re claim 31: Incorporate claims 34 and 35 into claim 31 as follow:

-- 31. Card stop apparatus for a card reader said card stop apparatus comprising:

a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path;

an arm rotatably coupled to said card stop about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path and disposed behind the card stop in a card inserting direction, wherein, when the card has not yet been inserted into the card reader, the arm and the card stop engage in the card path and wherein insertion of a card pivots the arm out of the card path against an effect of a restoring force thereby rotating the card stop out of the card path[.];

wherein said card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and

wherein said bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment.--

Re claim 34: (Cancel)

Re claim 35: (Cancel)

Re claim 40: Amend claim 40 as follow:

-- 40. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance [from] from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, [[said bolt is generally round and the recess comprise a circle segment;] the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a separation edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing. --

THE FOLLOWING IS A NEW SET OF THE CLAIMS:

21. Card stop apparatus for a card reader, said card stop apparatus comprising:

a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card;

an arm, rotatably coupled to said card stop, said arm being deflectable about an axis of rotation extending transverse to a plane of the inserted card, and behind said card stop in a card inserting direction, said arm being pretensioned into a pivoting position engaging the card path;

wherein said card stop is formed as a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path; and

wherein said bolt is generally round and the recess comprises a circle segment.

22. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop.

23. Card stop apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation.

24. (Cancel)

25. (Cancel)

26. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path.

27. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path.

28. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein said card stop comprises a separating edge on a side pivoting into the card path.

29. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 further comprising a tension spring for pretensioning the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing.

30. Card stop apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, said bolt is generally round and the recess comprise a circle segment, the deflectable arm includes a slope pattern extending into the card path at an angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a

separating edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected below the arm and a card reader housing.

31. Card stop apparatus for a card reader said card stop apparatus comprising:
a card stop disposed in a path of a card inserted into said card reader, said card stop being rotatable out of the card path about an axis of rotation extending transverse to the card path;

an arm rotatably coupled to said card stop about an axis of rotation extending transverse to card path and disposed behind the card stop in a card inserting direction, wherein, when the card has not yet been inserted into the card reader, the arm and the card stop engage in the card path and wherein insertion of a card pivots the arm out of the card path against an effect of a restoring force thereby rotating the card stop out the card path.

32. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop.

33. Card stop apparatus according claim 32 wherein the second arm is hinged to a said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation.

34. (Cancel)

35. (Cancel)

36. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 where the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path.

37. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path.

38. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein said card stop comprises a separating edge on a side pivoting into the card path.

39. Card stop apparatus according claim 31 further comprises a tension spring for pretensioning the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing.

40. Card stop apparatus according to claim 31 wherein the deflectable arm is formed by a first arm of a two-armed lever with a second arm of the lever being rotatably coupled to said card stop, the second arm is hinged to said card stop at a radial distance from the arm axis of rotation, said stop is formed or a bolt having a recess disposed in the card path, the deflectable arm includes a slope portion extending into the card path at an angle to the card path, a nose of the deflectable arm engages the card path, the card stop comprises a separation edge on a side pivoting in the card path and a tension spring pretensions the arm, the spring being interconnected between the arm and a card reader housing.